

DAVE SKINNER BOX 1486, WF MT 59
862 0058 30 MAR 07

SENATE NATURAL RESOURCES
SENATE NO. 3
DATE 3-30-07
BY HJ 31

HJ 31 opposes an Earth First inspired bit of legislation, what used to be called the Rockies Ecosystem Protection Act. Then it morphed into the Northern Rocky Mountain Ecosystem Protection Act, which sounds better. But whatever you call it, whenever it gets introduced for the umpteenth time, it's still the same old hooey, promoted by the same cast of radicals.

For example, a few supporters:

Dave Foreman, founder of Earth First!. It's his idea.

Alliance for the Wild Rockies, an Earth First spinoff, ranked Number Five nationwide for appeals against Forest Service in 2003 with 180; just ahead of Sierra Club; in an Ecological Restoration Insitutute study; ranked Number One in appeals in Region One by GAO;

Sierra Club, the Zero Cut people.

David Brower, the Archdruid;

Greater Yellowstone Coalition, funded, like the Alliance, by Ted Turner.

Friends of the West, a group in Idaho seeking to end public land grazing;

Republicans for Environmental Protection, which among other things, has had Earth First founder Dave Foreman speak at its national convention.

Jimmy Carter, the man who locked up Alaska and wants to free Palestine;

If you vote against this resolution, you are basically telling voters that yes, you are sympathetic to Earth First-style environmental radicalism. If anything, this bill should move forward so Montana voters can see how our elected officials in both houses really feel about environmental kookiness.

The bill's sponsor is Carolyn Moloney, upper East Side Manhattan. Let me tell you a little story. A couple years ago, my dad and I were watching TV when we heard:

"Coming up next, New York Central's High Line!"

My dad and I both like trains, and hey, Montana has a High Line, too! Besides, I was born on Manhattan Island. I know where and what the Hi Line was... a viaduct that used to serve the meatpacking houses in lower Manhattan. The railroad abandoned it in 1980.

DAVE SKINNER BOX 1486, WF MT 59
862 0058 30 MAR 07

DEPT. NATURAL RESOURCES
BILL NO. 3
DATE 3-30-07
HJ 31

HJ 31 opposes an Earth First inspired bit of legislation, what used to be call
Rockies Ecosystem Protection Act. Then it morphed into the Northern Rock
Act, which sounds better. But whatever you call it, whenever it gets introduced for the
umpteenth time, it's still the same old hooey, promoted by the same cast of radicals.
For example, a few supporters:

Dave Foreman, founder of Earth First!. It's his idea.

Alliance for the Wild Rockies, an Earth First spinoff, ranked Number Five nationwide for
appeals against Forest Service in 2003 with 180; just ahead of Sierra Club; in an
Ecological Restoration Insitutute study; ranked Number One in appeals in Region One by
GAO;

Sierra Club, the Zero Cut people.

David Brower, the Archdruid;

Greater Yellowstone Coalition, funded, like the Alliance, by Ted Turner.

Friends of the West, agroup in Idaho seeking to end public land grazing;

Republicans for Environmental Protection, which among other things, has had Earth First
founder Dave Foreman speak at its national convention.

Jimmy Carter, the man who locked up Alaska and wants to free Palestine;

If you vote against this resolution, you are basically telling voters that yes, you are
sympathetic to Earth First-style environmental radicalism. If anything, this bill should
move forward so Montana voters can see how our elected officials in both houses really
feel about environmental kookiness.

The bill's sponsor is Carolyn Moloney, upper East Side Manhattan. Let me tell you a
little story. A couple years ago, my dad and I were watching TV when we heard:

"Coming up next, New York Central's High Line!"

My dad and I both like trains, and hey, Montana has a High Line, too! Besides, I was
born on Manhattan Island. I know where and what the Hi Line was...a viaduct that used
to serve the meatpacking houses in lower Manhattan. The railroad abandoned it in 1980.

Well, the show wasn't about trains, but about a proposal to turn the viaduct into a linear park, as has been done in Paris France.

Trees and stuff have grown up through the ballast. For Manhattan, it's actually a pretty nice walk, I snuck up there last fall on a family visit just to see for myself.

So there was this lady, pretty rich judging by her jewels, pretty sophisticated judging by her English, saying, "Oh, walking along the High Line is just like being in the Colorado wilderness!" About that time my dad changed the channel.

It's a safe bet that for that lady, Montana and the concept of wilderness, are nothing more than abstractions. The litigation, the wildfires, the job losses, losses of county funding... all real to us, all abstractions to Madame Moloney and her constituent. You think this woman, or longtime sponsor Chris Shays, from Connecticut, really have a clue what this legislation would do? Maybe it is time to give them one. This resolution. Do the right thing, please.